

Regular Session, 2006

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY SENATOR THEUNISSEN

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Private First Class Chase Edwards, United States Marine, of Lake Charles.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Marine Corps Private First Class Chase Edwards upon his death in ground combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, Private First Class Chase Edwards was a native of Lake Charles, Louisiana, and a graduate of Barbe High School where he excelled academically as an honor roll student and was also a member of the soccer and football teams; and

WHEREAS, Private Edwards held a strong love for his country and felt that military service would be the best way he could support America's War on Terror, and he researched the factors involved with serving in the armed forces and shared with his history teacher a recording of a song he held dear about a young soldier who dies fighting for his homeland; and

WHEREAS, Private Edwards enlisted in the United States Marine Corps only days after graduating from high school and after he successfully completed the legendary rigors of boot camp in the Corps, he was deployed to Iraq and soon assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force where he served as an anti-tank assault missileman; and

WHEREAS, Private Edwards was nineteen years of age when he and his fellow

1 marines were conducting a mounted patrol on Thursday, April 6, 2006, in Ramadi, a hotspot  
2 of enemy activities west of Baghdad in Al Anbar Province when they were engaged by  
3 terrorist forces and Private Edwards was mortally wounded; and

4 WHEREAS, Private Edwards through his heroic services to his country, the Corps,  
5 and his fellow marines represents all the best that America represents, and by his service he  
6 truly brings great credit upon himself; and

7 WHEREAS, Private Edwards, for his courage and conduct in action, was awarded  
8 the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in battle, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Iraqi  
9 Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the National Defense  
10 Service Medal; and

11 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the  
12 Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana extend their deeply sincere and heartfelt condolences  
13 to the family of United States Marine Corps Private First Class Chase Edwards for the  
14 sacrifice and loss they have suffered with his death in ground combat operations in Iraq,  
15 fighting his nation's war on terror; and

16 WHEREAS, the death of Private First Class Chase Edwards leaves an unspeakable  
17 emptiness in the hearts of his family members and friends, who may find comfort in the  
18 knowledge that he lived his life heroically and according to deeply-held principles and that  
19 he will continue to be an inspiration to others; and

20 WHEREAS, Chase Edwards is survived by his mother and stepfather, Melody and  
21 Dennis Hartwell; his father and stepmother, Andrew F. and Lisa Edwards; his sister, Christin  
22 Edwards; and his brother, Lyndon Hartwell; and

23 WHEREAS, the heroism and bravery displayed by Private First Class Chase  
24 Edwards in his defense of freedom is a shining example of the American spirit in which all  
25 Louisianians take great pride.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
27 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Private First Class  
28 Chase Edwards, United States Marine of Lake Charles, does hereby record for posterity his  
29 outstanding achievements and his singular contributions to a grateful state and nation, and  
30 does hereby recognize that his memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all who

1       knew him and the many individuals whose lives he touched.  
2               BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
3       family of Private First Class Chase Edwards.

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          The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
          of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

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DIGEST

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